



Fermilab
ES&H Section

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE PROCEDURES

WIPE SAMPLING

April 16, 1993

PURPOSE

To provide uniform procedures for the collection of wipe samples. Wipe samples are taken to determine the degree of surface contamination and provide information on employee exposure. They are usually taken for lead and beryllium.

EQUIPMENT

- NATLSCO Supplied Filter Wipe
- Distilled Water
- IH Sampling Notes Form
- Disposable Gloves

PROCEDURE

1. Prepare a sketch of the area.
2. A new set of gloves should be used for each wipe sample taken.
3. With gloves on, remove the filter from the plastic bag.
4. Moisten the filter with distilled water. Add just enough to moisten the filter. Unfold the filter.
5. Wipe an area of 100 square centimeters. See attached diagram. If the surface is smaller this, wipe as much area as possible and document the area. For curved surface, the wiped area should be estimated as accurately as possible.
6. Apply maximum pressure when wiping.

7. To insure that all portions of the area are wiped, start at the outside edge and progress toward the center making concentric squares of decreasing size.
8. Without allowing the filter to contact any other surface, fold the filter and place it inside the plastic bag. Seal the bag. Submit one blank filter for the set of submitted samples.
9. Record information on IH Sampling Notes Form and submit samples to ES&H Section for processing.